



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: James A. Noyes  
Director of Public Works

### PERCHLORATE CONTAMINATION OF GROUNDWATER BASINS

Last week I attended a luncheon hosted by the Metropolitan Water District regarding perchlorate contamination of groundwater basins. In attendance were Congresswoman Grace Napolitano (Resources Committee, ranking member on the Water and Power Subcommittee), Congressman Ken Calvert (Resources Committee, Chair of the Water and Power Subcommittee), Congressman David Dreier (Chair of the Rules Committee), and State Senator Nell Soto. Also in attendance were several members of the Pomona City Council and the Mayor of Glendora.

The primary purpose of this meeting was for the elected officials to hear from the Three Valleys Municipal Water District, the City of Pomona, and the City of Glendora regarding contaminated water issues in the San Gabriel Valley, particularly ammonium perchlorate. Ammonium perchlorate has become, within the last few years, another contaminant in many groundwater basins in the State. I pointed out that in addition to contamination in the San Gabriel Valley Basin, there was also groundwater contamination in the Raymond Basin in the vicinity of JPL, Pasadena/La Canada Flintridge, the Whittier Bermite site in the City of Santa Clarita, and the Rocketdyne site in the Chatsworth area. To date, there are approximately 49 contaminated wells that have been shut down within Los Angeles County because of or in part due to perchlorate contamination.

The meeting concluded with the Congressional members indicating that they will expand their conversations with their peers as to the extent and severity of this problem. They asked Senator Soto if she would do likewise with the members of the California Legislature. They agreed to meet again at some future date when more information is available. The Metropolitan Water District is preparing a white paper on perchlorate contamination and will provide it to the elected officials as well as to us.

JAN:hmy

cc: Chief Administrative Office (Gerri Kariya)

